Prep/1 S Newsletter – February 22nd

Reading

Keep up the great home reading that you have been doing with your children. I have been delighted to see that most children are developing/ have developed wonderful reading habits including reading nightly, pointing to words as they read them, using picture clues to enhance meaning and retelling major events from a text.

This week our reading focusses in class are Checking for Understanding and Backing up and Re-reading. Checking for Understanding involves pausing at regular interval (eg. After each page or chapter) and checking that you know what is happening in the text. Backing up and Re-reading is a strategy used when a sentence or paragraph doesn’t make sense.

Spelling

Grade 1 children will be given the weekly spelling words each Monday morning and will use them at school throughout the week. Please encourage them to closely learn their weekly spelling pattern which may include writing their words into sentences or a story or drawing pictures to match each word.

Prep - This week’s letters

The week the two letters that children will be learning are B (Bouncy Ben) and H (Harry Hat Man). Children will be learning the sound that these letters make, words that start with these sounds and the correct letter formation.

Last week we focussed on N and W. It would beneficial if you revised these letters and sounds at home.

Mathematics

This week in maths we will begin to concentrate of Addition. Children will use manipulative materials to add two or more numbers together and will also focus developing mental strategies including making to 10 (knowing what numbers when added together make 10. Eg. 3 and 7, 5 and 5, 8 and 2 etc).

Inquiry – Boxes Needed

Today children began their focus on designing an arcade game for others to use at our upcoming Arcade afternoon. Children watched the story of a little boy called Caine who was forced to spend the summer at his Dad’s factory and came up with a very creative way to pass the time. Children will this week and next week design, plan and construct an arcade game. We still require more decent size boxes so if you can help please drop the boxes to our classroom this week.

Parent/Grandparent Help to begin our Arcade Game construction- Friday 2:30pm

To help children begin the construction of their arcade games, this Friday at 2:30pm parents, grandparents etc are invited and encouraged to come to our classroom and assist in constructing their games. Children will have worked during the week to design their arcade game but I am sure would benefit from some assistance in getting started on the construction.

If you would like to watch Caine’s Story (there are 2 parts to it) then simply type Caine’s Arcade into google or youtube. It might be useful to help your child think of what they could design and construct and also for you to see what we have been learning about in class.

Have a super week!